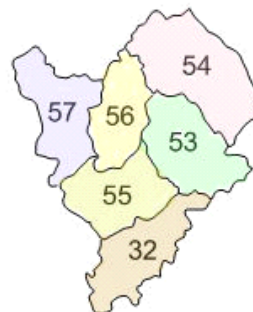


GARDEN MOTH SCHEME 2016  
EAST MIDLANDS  
WEEKS 1 TO 9 REPORT



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Emperor Moth *Saturnia pavonia*  
Sheila Wright

Edited by: Roger Freestone ([rogerf500@sky.com](mailto:rogerf500@sky.com))

Revision 01: 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2016

**GARDEN MOTH SCHEME 2016**  
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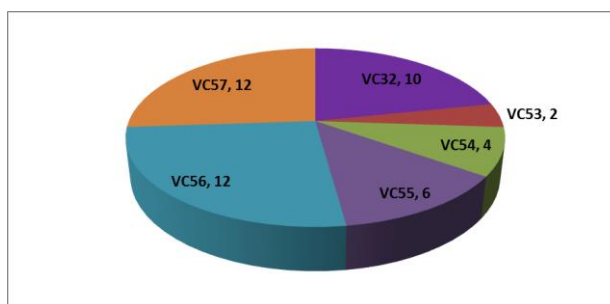
**INTRODUCTION**

This short report is to give East Midlands Recorders immediate feedback following the first nine weeks of the 2016 GMS. My personal experience was that the first nine weeks were a slow start in my Nottingham garden, but records received to date indicates that these first nine weeks were similar to the last two years.

**EAST MIDLANDS REGION DATA OVERVIEW**

**GMS Recorders & Locations**

The number of recorders who have indicated that they will be recording this year in the East Midlands is 46, which hopefully will result in a good increase on the total of 33 recorders who submitted acceptable records in 2015 for input into the GMS database; there were a couple of recorders whose data were unfortunately ineligible as they did not record for the requisite number of weeks. This increase follows interest shown on the GMS Facebook site and encouragement by Dave Grundy who was the original driving force behind GMS. The following pie chart gives a break-down of recorders by vice-county and it is pleasing to see that there are more recorders from the two Lincolnshire VC's 53 & 54.



**Figure 1: Split of East Midlands GMS Recorders Starting GMS 2016**

**Q1 Records Summary**

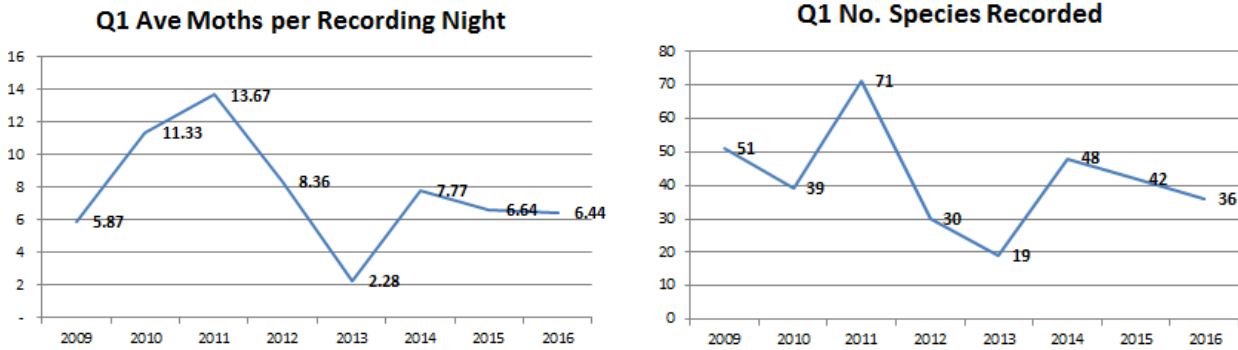
Table 1 below compares the records for weeks 1 to 9 (25 recorders) this year with the same period in previous years. The species recording list was modified last year but there are no significant changes that affect the recording of early spring species and so the comparison is valid. Figure 2 shows a graphical comparison of the average moths recorded per night and the number of species recorded.

It can be seen that the Q1 2016 records are generally similar to the last two years with respect to the number of moths per recording night, although the total number of species recorded was less than 2014 and 2015 and this may just be the result only 25 recorders submitting their records for the first 9 weeks, and can easily be affected by single records of species, so a comparison of the number of species is not really appropriate at this stage but is still presented for completeness.

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
No. Recorders	19	21	24	29	33	33	33	25
No. Recording Nights	167	186	208	244	272	284	288	173
No. Species Recorded	51	39	71	30	19	48	42	36
No. Moths	981	2108	2,843	2,040	619	2,207	1,912	1,114
Ave Moths per Recording Night	5.87	11.33	13.67	8.36	2.28	7.77	6.64	6.44
% of Blank Nights	16%	21%	15%	16%	59%	20%	14%	10%

**Table 1: Summary of Weeks 1 to 9 for all GMS Records for 2009 thru 2016**

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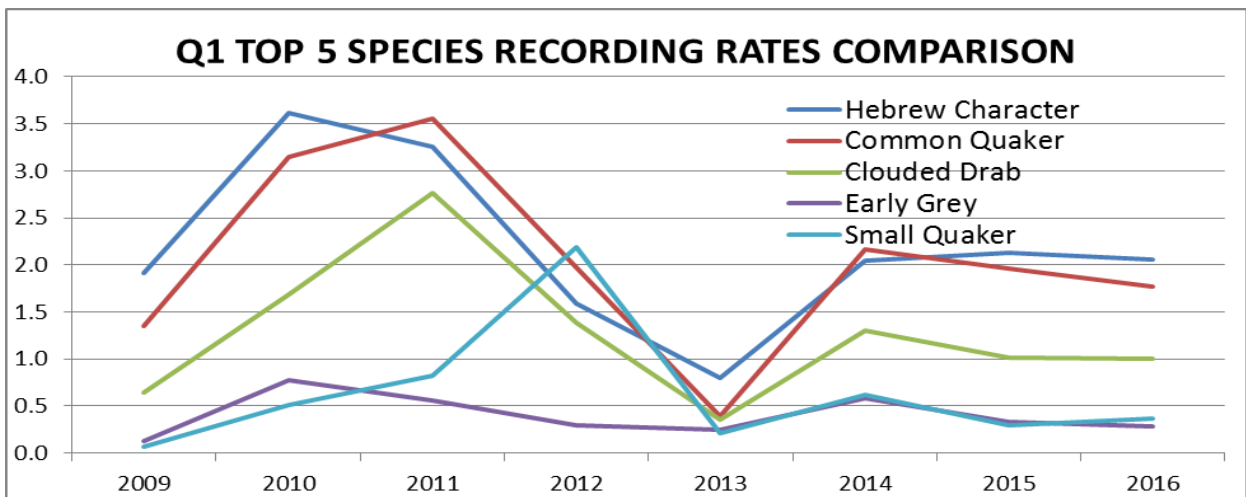
**Figure 2: Summary of Weeks 1 to 9 for all GMS Records for 2009 thru 2015**

**Top 10 Species for 2015 Q1**

The Top 10 recorded species in Q1 2016 are presented in Table 2 on page 4 along with a comparison to previous years based on the Average Number of Moths per Recording Night. The “usual suspects” are in the Top 10 although Powdered Quaker makes its first appearance since 2011

Figure 3 shows the recording rates for the typical Q1 Top 5 moth of Common Quaker, Clouded Drab, Hebrew Character, Early Grey and Small Quaker occupy the top 5 positions.

These recording rate trends shows that since the recovery post 2013 the recording rates are generally similar over past 3 years (Note: The peak of Small Quaker in 2012 is heavily skewed by a single recorder’s records accounting for 42% of the total Small Quaker records!).



**Figure 3: Recording Rate of the Q1 Top 5 moth species from 2009 to 2016**

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2016		2015		2014		2013		2012		2011		2010	
<b>Hebrew Character</b>	<b>2.06</b>	Hebrew Character	2.13	Common Quaker	2.17	Hebrew Character	0.79	Small Quaker	2.2	Common Quaker	3.55	Hebrew Character	3.62
<b>Common Quaker</b>	<b>1.77</b>	Common Quaker	1.96	Hebrew Character	2.04	Common Quaker	0.39	Common Quaker	2.0	Hebrew Character	3.26	Common Quaker	3.15
<b>Clouded Drab</b>	<b>1.00</b>	Clouded Drab	1.02	Clouded Drab	1.31	Clouded Drab	0.36	Hebrew Character	1.6	Clouded Drab	2.76	Clouded Drab	1.69
<b>Small Quaker</b>	<b>0.36</b>	Early Grey	0.33	Small Quaker	0.62	Early Grey	0.25	Clouded Drab	1.4	Small Quaker	0.83	Early Grey	0.78
<b>Early Grey</b>	<b>0.28</b>	Small Quaker	0.30	Early Grey	0.58	Small Quaker	0.22	Early Grey	0.3	Early Grey	0.56	Small Quaker	0.51
<b>Powdered Quaker</b>	<b>0.18</b>	Double-striped Pug	0.11	Double-striped Pug	0.13	Twin-spotted Quaker	0.04	Twin-spotted Quaker	0.2	Twin-spotted Quaker	0.22	Powdered Quaker	0.25
<b>Light Brown Apple Moth</b>	<b>0.16</b>	Light Brown Apple Moth	0.09	Twenty-plume Moth	0.10	Oak Beauty	0.04	Chestnut	0.1	Double-striped Pug	0.20	Double-striped Pug	0.16
<b>Twin-spotted Quaker</b>	<b>0.13</b>	March Moth	0.09	Twin-spotted Quaker	0.08	Dotted Border	0.03	Dotted Border	0.1	Early Thorn	0.18	Early Thorn	0.16
<b>Oak Beauty</b>	<b>0.06</b>	Twin-spotted Quaker	0.06	Light Brown Apple Moth	0.08	Early Thorn	0.03	March moth	0.1	Powdered Quaker	0.14	Dotted Border	0.10
<b>March Moth</b>	<b>0.06</b>	Oak Beauty	0.06	Early Thorn	0.07	Satellite	0.03	Early Thorn	0.1	Shuttle-shaped Dart	0.13	Chestnut	0.09

**Table 2: Top Ten Moth Records for Weeks 1 to 9 for 2010 thru 2016 (Average Number of Moths per Recording Night)**

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**APPENDIX 1- List of All EM Moths Recorded in 2016 Q1**

Species	No.
White-shouldered House Moth	2
Barred Fruit-tree Tortrix	1
Light Brown Apple Moth	28
Twenty-plume Moth	3
Bee Moth	2
Emmelina monodactyla	4
March Moth	10
Shoulder Stripe	4
Red-green Carpet	1
Green Pug	1
Double-striped Pug	9
Dusky Thorn	1
Early Thorn	5
Brindled Beauty	1
Oak Beauty	11
Dotted Border	6
Iron Prominent	1
Swallow Prominent	1

Species	No.
Shuttle-shaped Dart	3
Bright-line Brown-eye	1
Pine Beauty	2
Small Quaker	63
Powdered Quaker	31
Common Quaker	307
Clouded Drab	173
Twin-spotted Quaker	23
Hebrew Character	357
Grey Shoulder-knot	2
Blair's Shoulder-knot	2
Early Grey	49
Satellite	2
Chestnut	3
Knot Grass	1
Angle Shades	2
Silver Y	1
Herald	1